UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/25127
19 January 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 18 JANUARY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF EGYPT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 14 January 1993 from Mr. Amre Moussa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, giving the Egyptian response to the letters from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan addressed to you and circulated on 11 and 12 January 1993 concerning the question of Halayib (S/25090 and S/25095).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nabil A. ELARABY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 14 January 1993 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to the letters from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan addressed to you and circulated on 11 and 12 January 1993 concerning the question of Halayib. I should like to inform you that these letters bring nothing new to the legal and political aspects of the matter that I addressed in my letter to you of 3 January 1993 (S/25051).

In his letters, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan refers to what he calls "developments relating to the Egyptian aggression against the territory of Halayib, which is aimed at imposing a fait accompli". In this connection, I should like to reiterate what I said in my previous letter, namely that the Egyptian security and administrative presence in all its forms inside Egypt's international boundaries north of the 22nd parallel in the area referred to has been fixed and unwavering and shall remain so. It is a normal presence and falls within the exercise by Egypt of its sovereignty over its territory with a view to securing the boundaries in question against any attempt to violate them, particularly on the part of terrorist elements whose activities have been on the increase in recent times and which could pose a threat to the security and integrity of the area.

We consider that the references by the Sudanese Government to aggression carried out by Egyptian forces in recent times are unacceptable in both form and substance. There has never at any time been an Egyptian presence in Sudanese territory south of the 22nd parallel, and its claims that the Halayib area is Sudanese territory rest on no legal, historical or factual basis, as I stated in my previous letter. The truth of the matter is that these claims reveal the designs of the Government of the Sudan to transform the limited administrative functions entrusted to it pursuant to Egyptian decrees into permanent occupation and the annexation of territory that demonstrably belongs to Egypt both legally and historically.

We could speak at length of the underlying political motives of the Government of the Sudan in raising the question of Halayib at this particular time. However, in our endeavour to avoid further complicating the situation, we are here content to affirm our earnest desire to settle any difference with the Sudan in the framework of the historical friendly relations between the two countries, deference for the norms and principles of good-neighbourliness and non-interference in the internal affairs of others, respect for rights in accordance with the agreements in force and the fulfilment of obligations arising out of the undertakings given.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amre MOUSSA
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Arab Republic of Egypt